WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A data processing apparatus comprising:

a recorder for recording content data onto a recording medium; and

a controller for controlling said recorder such that when, after first timing in which user instruction information indicating a first instruction to pause or stop recording of said content data is received from a user during recording of said content data onto said recording medium, user instruction information indicating a second instruction to resume recording said content data is received in third timing before second timing that is timing a preset period after said first timing, said content data corresponding to a period from said first timing to said third timing is recorded on said recording medium so as to be continuous with said content data before said first timing.

2. A data processing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a memory for temporarily storing said content data inputted to the memory,

wherein said controller controls said recorder to sequentially record said content data stored in said memory onto said recording medium;

said controller controls said recorder such that when

user instruction information indicating said second instruction is received within a period from said first timing during the recording of said content data onto said recording medium to said second timing, said content data corresponding to the period from said first timing to said third timing is read from said memory after said third timing and recorded on said recording medium; and said controller controls said recorder such that when no user instruction information indicating said second instruction is received within the period from said first timing during the recording of said content data onto said recording medium to said second timing, said content data corresponding to the period from said first timing to said second timing is not recorded on said recording medium.

3. A data processing apparatus as claimed in claim 2,

wherein said second timing is a time when a data amount of said content data stored in said memory after said first timing reaches a threshold value.

4. A data processing apparatus as claimed in claim 1,

wherein said controller controls said recorder to sequentially record said content data onto said recording

medium;

said controller controls said recorder such that when user instruction information indicating said second instruction is received within a period from said first timing during the recording of said content data onto said recording medium to said second timing, said content data corresponding to the period from said first timing to said third timing is retained on said recording medium; and

said controller controls said recorder such that when no user instruction information indicating said second instruction is received within the period from said first timing during the recording of said content data onto said recording medium to said second timing, said content data corresponding to a period from said first timing to said second timing is erased from said recording medium.

5. A data processing apparatus as claimed in claim 4,

wherein said controller controls said recorder such that when no user instruction information indicating said second instruction is received within the period from said first timing to said second timing, said content data itself corresponding to the period from said first timing to said second timing is erased from said

recording medium.

6. A data processing apparatus as claimed in claim 4,

wherein when no user instruction information indicating said second instruction is received within the period from said first timing to said second timing, said controller treats said content data corresponding to the period from said first timing to said second timing as erased from said recording medium by excluding said content data corresponding to the period from said first timing to said second timing from a play list used for reproduction of said content data recorded on said recording medium so that said content data corresponding to the period from said first timing to said second timing is erased from said recording medium.

7. A data processing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a generator for generating time information,

wherein said controller records said time information in association with said content data onto said recording medium by said recorder.

8. A data processing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising an image pickup device for obtaining said content data.

9. A data processing method comprising the steps of:

recording content data onto a recording medium by a recorder; and

controlling said recorder such that when, after first timing in which user instruction information indicating a first instruction to pause or stop recording of said content data is received from a user during processing of said recording step, user instruction information indicating a second instruction to resume recording said content data is received in third timing before second timing that is timing a preset period after said first timing, said content data corresponding to a period from said first timing to said third timing is recorded on said recording medium so as to be continuous with said content data before said first timing.

10. A data processing method as claimed in claim 9, further comprising a step for temporarily storing said content data inputted to a memory in the memory,

wherein in the processing of said recording step, said content data stored by processing of said storing step is sequentially recorded onto said recording medium; and

in processing of said controlling step, when user instruction information indicating said second

instruction is received within a period from said first timing during recording of said content data onto said recording medium to said second timing, said content data corresponding to the period from said first timing to said third timing is read from said memory after said third timing and recorded on said recording medium, and when no user instruction information indicating said second instruction is received within the period from said first timing to said second timing, said content data corresponding to the period from said first timing to said second timing is not recorded on said recording medium.

11. A data processing method as claimed in claim 10,

wherein said second timing is a time when a data amount of said content data stored in said memory after said first timing reaches a threshold value.

12. A data processing method as claimed in claim 9, wherein in the processing of said recording step, said content data is sequentially recorded onto said recording medium; and

in processing of said controlling step, when user instruction information indicating said second instruction is received within a period from said first

timing during recording of said content data onto said recording medium to said second timing, said content data corresponding to the period from said first timing to said third timing is retained on said recording medium, and when no user instruction information indicating said second instruction is received within the period from said first timing to said second timing, said content data corresponding to the period from said first timing to said second timing is erased from said recording medium.

13. A data processing method as claimed in claim 12,

wherein in the processing of said controlling step, when no user instruction information indicating said second instruction is received within the period from said first timing to said second timing, said content data itself corresponding to the period from said first timing to said second timing is erased from said recording medium.

14. A data processing method as claimed in claim 12,

wherein in the processing of said controlling step, when no user instruction information indicating said second instruction is received within the period from said first timing to said second timing, said content data

corresponding to the period from said first timing to said second timing is treated as erased from said recording medium by excluding said content data corresponding to the period from said first timing to said second timing from a play list used for reproduction of said content data recorded on said recording medium so that said content data corresponding to the period from said first timing to said second timing is erased from said recording medium.

15. A data processing method as claimed in claim 9, further comprising a step for generating time information, wherein in the processing of said recording step, said time information is recorded in association with said content data onto said recording medium.

16. A data processing method as claimed in claim 9, further comprising a step for obtaining said content data.

17. A program for making a computer carry out a data processing method, said data processing method comprising the steps of:

recording content data onto a recording medium by a recorder; and

controlling said recorder such that when, after first timing in which user instruction information indicating a first instruction to pause or stop recording of said

content data is received from a user during processing of said recording step, user instruction information indicating a second instruction to resume recording said content data is received in third timing before second timing that is timing a preset period after said first timing, said content data corresponding to a period from said first timing to said third timing is recorded on said recording medium so as to be continuous with said content data before said first timing.